able the subsidised foodgrains to needy and deserving sections of the population.

With a view to improving the reach of the PDS in desert, drought prone, hilly and tribal areas, the Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations, identified about 1700 blocks covered by various area specific programmes for implementing the scheme for Revamping the PDS. State Governments had agreed to open additional fair price shops (FPS), issue additional ration cards, create/hire storage capacity for stocking of foodgrains in the interior areas, make arrangements wherever possible for doorstep delivery of PDS commodities at the doorsteps of FPSs and set up Vigilance Committees of beneficiaries at FPS/Village level etc. Substantial progress has been achieved in the opening of additional fair price shops, issue of additional ration cards. The Central and State Governments are monitoring the progress made in this regard.

The foodgrains meant for distribution in the Revamped PDS areas are specially subsidised by the Central Government. The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains for these areas is Rs. 50 per quintal lower than the normal PDS areas. Measures have been taken to improve the allocations and availability of PDS foodgrains in the RPDS areas.

Items declared as essential commodities

3805. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of items declared as essential commodities by Government;

(b) whether Government propose to prune the list of essential commodities to keep only items of mass consumption; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) A list of items declared as essential under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is annexed (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Review of the list of essential commodities is undertaken by Government from time to time in consultation with the Ministries/Departments administratively concerned with the items and addition/deletions to the list are made accordingly.

LIST OF COMMODITIES DECLARED ESSENTIAL UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955

Declared under Clause (a) of Section 2 of the Act

1. Cattle Fodder, including oilcakes and other concentrates.
2. Coal, including coke and other derivatives.
3. Component parts and accessories of automobiles.
4. Cotton and woolled textiles.
5. Drugs.
6. Foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils.
7. Iron and Steel, including manufactured products of Iron & Steel.
8. Paper, including newsprint, paperboard and straw board.
9. Petroleum and Petroleum products.
10. Raw Cotton, whether ginned or unginned and cotton seeds.
11. Raw jute.

Declared under sub-clause (xi) of clause (a) of Section 2 of the Act

12. Jute textiles.
13. Fertilisers, whether inorganic, organic or mixed.
14. Non-ferrous metals.
15. Organic heavy chemicals.
16. Inorganic heavy chemicals.
17. Cinema films (raw).
18. Press Mud.
19. Cement.

20. Manufactures and semi-manufactures of non-ferrous metals.

21. Soap.

22. Cinema Carbon.

23. Textile machinery :—

(i) Blow room machinery.

(ii) Carving engines.

(iii) Draw frames.

(iv) Speed frames.

(v) Ring frames.

(vi) Winding machines.

(vii) Doubling machines.

(viii) Reeling machines.

(ix) Bundling machines.

(x) Power looms.

(xi) Bailing machines.

(xii) Side frames of Power looms.

(xiii) Spare parts of power looms and ring frames.

(xiv) Woolcombing machinery.

(xv) Woollen :—

(i) rag washing machines,

(ii) rag tearing machines.

(iii) rag cutting machine and

(iv) garnoting machine.

(xvi) Warp knitting machines including Rashel knitting machines worked by power;

(xvii) embroidery machines, other than sewing type embroidery machines worked by power and used for decorating the textile fabrics with designs formed with any type of thread by the help of needles;

(xviii) lace making machines worked by power and used for production of fabrics of open mesh or net formed by crossing and intertwisting thread; and

(xix) machines worked by power and used for printing of cloth by means of engraved rollers or screens.

24. Textiles made from silk.

25. Textiles made wholly or in part from man-made cellulosic and non-cellulosic spun fibre.

26. Textiles made wholly or in part from cellulosic and non-cellulosic filament yarn.

27. Matches.

28. Ferro-silicon.

29. Silico-manganese.

30. Ferro-chrome.

31. Ferro-molybdenunm.

32. Ferro-tungsten.

33. Ferro-manganese.

34. Ferro-vanadium.

35. Ferro-phosphorus.

36. Ferro-titandium.

37. Ferrous scrap/containing more than-

(i) 0.50 Per cent Nickel or

(ii) 0.20 Per cent Molybdenum, or

(iii) 1.00 Per cent Tungsten, or

(iv) 0.20 Per cent Vanadium, or

(v) 1.00 Per cent Cobalt.

38. General Lighting Service Lamps.

39. Soda Ash.

40. Dry cells for torches.

41. Hurricane Lanterns.

42. Household appliances such as electric irons, heater and the like.

43. Synthetic Rubber.

44. Carbon black.

45. Polyvinyl chloride (P.V.C.) resins and compounds.

46. Polystyrence and Polystyrene moulding powder.

47. Polyethyelne and Polyethylene moulding powder.

48. Coconut husk (Raw or retted).

49. Tyres and tubes of buses and trucks.

50. Dry cells and Batteries for Transistor Radios.

51. Tyres and Tubes of Animal Drawn Vehicle.

52. Electric Cables and wires.

53. Man-made cellulosic and non-cellulosic staple fibre.

54. Crude Oil.

55. Yarn made wholly or in part from any of the following materials, namely :—
(i) cotton, (ii) wool, (iii) man-made cellulosic spun fibre, (iv) man-made non-cellulosic spun fibre, (v) silk.

56. (i) Man-made cellulosic and Non-cellulosic filament yarn, (ii) Nylon Tyre/Cord/Fabric.

57. Exercise Books.

58. Coir fibre extracted from coconut husks.

59. Insecticides Fungicides, Weedicides and the like.

60. Tea.

61. Power threshers.

62. (i) Seeds of food-crops and seeds of fruit and vegetables, (ii) seeds of cattle fodder and (iii) jute seeds. To be used for sowing or planting (including seedlings and tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, roots, cuttings and all types of grants and other vegetatively propagated material of food crops or cattle fodder).

63. Surgical Implants.

64. Natural Gas.

65. Hydraulic Brake Fluid.

66. (i) Switches for domestic and similar purposes (ii) 2-AMP Switches, (iii) 3-pin plugs and Socket out lets.

Inadequate supply of foodgrains to Bihar

3806. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
MOHAMMED AFZAL alias
NEEM AFZAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of foodgrains being supplied to Bihar is much less than that of its monthly requirement, if so, the reasons therefor ?

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the light of new policy of the Government of India Revamped Public Distribution System has been introduced in 1974 in selected districts where consumers do not get rquired foodgrains;

(c) whether Government propose to supply immediately foodgrains to Bihar as per the actual requirements of the state; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) The allotments of rice and wheat are made to the various States/Union Territories on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States/UTs, seasonal availability and other related factors. The Central supply of foodgrains for the Public Distribution System (PDS) is supplemental to open market availability, and is not meant for meeting the entire demands of the States and UTs. Accordingly, the Government of Bihar has been allotted monthly quantity of 24,580 MTs of rice and 51,580 MTs of wheat from June, 1992 including 9,580 tonnes of rice, 9,580 tonnes of wheat for Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). Besides, the following additional quantities of rice